

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The indication of allowable subject matter in original claims 3-6 is gratefully acknowledged. In accordance with this indication, claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form. It is believed that claim 8 which is now dependent on claim 6 should be allowed by virtue of its amended dependence.

Applicant confirms the election of claims 1-9 for prosecution in this application. Claims 10-24 have been cancelled as drawn to the non-elected inventions.

The suggested headings have been inserted in the specification and two typographical errors have been corrected.

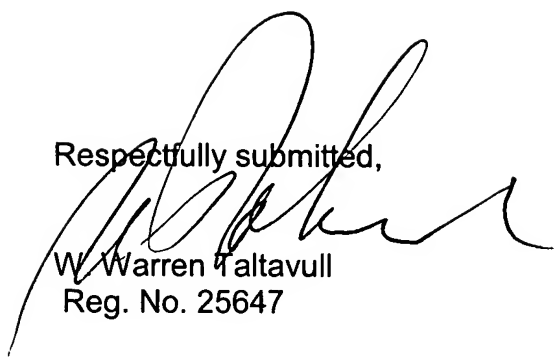
In the Office action, claims 1, 2 and 7-9 were rejected as anticipated by the patent to Rose No. 5,234,047. In response, claim 1 has been amended primarily to address the position of the Examiner regarding expressions relating to an intended operation. As amended, it is submitted that claims 1, 2, 7 and 9 define a novel and unobvious advance over the references of record for the following reasons.

The patent to Rose discloses a mould for casting a wax precursor but does not suggest any feature for locating a core in the precursor and thus has no need for any location pins or location surface projections to allow accurate insertion of such pins. The feature the Examiner relies on could not serve as location projections on the wax precursor since they are in fact for forming the platform of the cast turbine blades or vanes. The problem in locating a core in a wax precursor is essentially one of accuracy over the length of the wax precursor and a platform forming indentation at one end of a blade precursor will not serve this function. Claim 1 has been amended to recite the plurality of location indentations spaced apart from one another and this plurality is clearly not shown in Rose.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 7 and 9 is believed appropriate and is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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